What powerful and up-and-coming gangs are there in NZ?-Are any of them based in Christchurch?

* According to the [New Zealand Police](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Zealand_Police), the three most prominent New Zealand gangs are [Black Power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Power_(New_Zealand)) (not related to the [African-American movement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Power)); the [Mongrel Mob](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mongrel_Mob), and the [Nomads](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nomads_(New_Zealand_gang)&action=edit&redlink=1).[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-OrganisedCrime-0) Other gangs are prominent in particular areas, for example the Junior Don Kings (JDK) and Dope Money Sex (DMS) in [Central Auckland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Auckland).[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-1)
* [Prominent gangs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Prominent_gangs)

[Black Power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Black_Power)  [Hells Angels MC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Hells_Angels_MC) [Highway 61 MC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Highway_61_MC)

[Mongrel Mob](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Mongrel_Mob)

[Nomads](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Nomads)

[Road Knights MC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Road_Knights_MC)

[Tribesmen MC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#Tribesmen_MC)

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=2)] Black Power

*Main article:* [*Black Power (New Zealand)*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Power_(New_Zealand))

Black Power was formed in the late 1960s in [Whakatane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whakatane), and its membership is primarily [Māori](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C4%81ori) and [Pacific Islander](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Islander). It has been involved with various kinds of crime, particularly drug dealing. Its symbol is the clenched fist of the American [black power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_power) movement, and its colours are blue and black.

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=3)] Hells Angels MC

*Main article:* [*Hells Angels*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hells_Angels)

The Hells Angels motorcycle club founded a chapter in Auckland in 1961 and has since taken over gangs in Wanganui. New Zealand had the first chapter of the Hells Angels outside the US.[[8]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-7)

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=4)] Highway 61 MC

The Highway 61 motorcycle club is currently the largest outlaw motorcycle club in New Zealand. The motorcycle club currently has chapters in Auckland, Hastings, Rotorua, Wellington and also Sydney, Australia.[[9]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-nzherald.co.nz-8). By 2008 it had expanded into Brisbane and the Gold Coast in eastern Australia.[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-9)

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=5)] Mongrel Mob

*Main article:* [*Mongrel Mob*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mongrel_Mob)

The Mongrel Mob was formed and organised in [Hastings](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hastings,_New_Zealand) about 1968 and, like its Black Power rivals, is primarily Māori and Pacific Islander. The gang has been active in organised crime and has been involved in several murders. Its symbol is a [bulldog](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulldog) wearing a [German](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germany) [Stahlhelm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stahlhelm) helmet, and the gang makes use of other [Nazi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi) imagery. Their colours are red and white. The Mongrel Mob is currently the biggest gang in New Zealand.[[11]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-10)

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=6)] Nomads

In 1977 the Nomads split from Black Power.[[12]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-11)

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=7)] Road Knights MC

The Road Knights motorcycle club operates in the South Island.[[13]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-12)

### [[edit](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gangs_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=8)] Tribesmen MC

The Tribesmen is a prominently [Māori](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C4%81ori) motorcycle club formed in the 1980s in [Otara](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otara). It is connected to the Killerbeez youth street gang.[[14]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-13)

## Other gangs

* Bloods (Youth Gang)
* Crips (Youth Gang)
* Devil's Henchmen MC (Christchurch) - the original South Island outlaw motorcycle club, formed in Timaru in the 1970s
* [Dope Money Sex](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Dope_Money_Sex&action=edit&redlink=1) (Youth Gang) - [Central Auckland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Auckland)
* Epitaph Riders MC (Christchurch)
* Filthy Few MC (Tauranga)[[15]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-14)
* Forty Five MC (Takanini)
* Grim Reapers MC
* [Headhunters MC](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Headhunters_MC&action=edit&redlink=1) (Auckland)[[16]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-15)
* [Killerbeez](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Killerbeez&action=edit&redlink=1) (Organized Youth Gang - Connected to the Tribesman)
* [King Cobras](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=King_Cobras_(gang)&action=edit&redlink=1) (Auckland) – formed in central Auckland during the 1960s, K.C started as a largely Samoan gang but including some Pakeha and people from other Polynesian countries.[[17]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-16)
* Lone Legion MC (Blenheim)
* Lost Breed MC (Nelson)
* Magogs MC (New Plymouth)
* Mothers MC (Palmerston North)
* Outcasts MC (Hamilton)
* Outlaws MC (Napier)
* Red Devils MC (Nelson)
* Satans Slaves MC (Wellington)
* Sinn Fein MC (Upper Hutt)
* Southern Vikings MC (Dunedin)
* StormTroopers MC (Nationwide)
* Templars MC (Christchurch)
* Tribal Huk (Ngaruawahia)[[18]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gangs_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-17)
* Titans MC (Matamata)

How do people view gangs and why are they feared?

Many people think they are frightening and intimidating

Heres what some people in 9mc think of gangs:  
"I think gangs are just an excuse for people to look big and tough and intimidate people to make themselves feel good."  
"I think that gangs are violent."

“I think whether gangs are scary or not depends who’s in them.”

How and why do people become in gangs?

Heres some reasons people may join a gang

* Family members already in a gang
* Mainly from economically deprived areas
* Dysfunctional families
* No positive male role model
* Youth gangs trying to copy what they see on TV, movies and video games etc. Trying to be like the American gangs
* Sense of belonging and family
* They have nothing constructive to do with their time
* Peer pressure
* Some join gangs for status, if they are unemployed or performing poorly at school, they join groups where they feel they can excel. Their bonds with each other becomes stronger than their ties with family.

What do gang members do that makes them different to others?

“The kind of things we do in a gang is mostly fighting. We fight against other gangs to show pride for our own gang, but in reality, we don’t even know what we’re fighting for. And by the time we realize this, it’s too late.” They spend most of their time together, kicking back, hanging on street corners, partying, drinking, using and selling drugs; cursing and provoking other gangs into violence

How have gangs changed today?

Today a gang member is very likely to have a gun, and being a gang member today is much more dangerous than ever before. Today’s gang killings have nothing to do with manhood or heart, and everything to do with dope, money and power. The principal source of income for today’s gangs are drug sales, and this activity often requires gang members to rob or act as strong-arm men to protect drug dealers from take over.